

GAVE CHASE IN HIS YACHT.

Col. O. G. Staples Captures Three Alleged Hotel Swindlers.

Pursued the Men on the St. Lawrence—Said to Have Represented Themselves as From This City—Their Victims Said to Be Many

WATERTOWN, N. Y., July 15.—Col. O. G. Staples, proprietor of the Thousand Island House at Alexandria Bay and the Riggs and National Hotels at Washington, was the principal in an exciting chase through the Canadian waters of the

the Nereid, today, in an effort to capture three men who had swindled him out of \$200 by means of bogus checks which they passed in payment for their hotel bill.

Saturday night and registered at the Thousand Island House as Dr. A. W. Whitmore, Charles Arnold, and Jean St. Clair. They said that they were from Washington and had leased the yacht Sunbeam and that the boat was at Og-

densburg. They stayed at the hotel over Sunday and yesterday started for Odessa, Miss., to get the yacht, as they claimed. They tendered in payment for their hotel bill, amounting to \$25, a \$200 check on a Washington bank. The check was taken in good faith. Colonel Staples learned that the men had left suspiciously on the fast yacht Captain Visger, for

Canadian points, telegraphed at once to Washington and learned that the check was worthless. He immediately set out in pursuit with his private yacht Nereid.

and at Gananoque learned that the men had gone to Brockville. Colonel Staples headed his yacht toward Brockville and at this place the men were overtaken and placed under arrest.

An officer left Alexandria Bay tonight for Brockville to get the three. Colonel Staples is willing to allow the men their

liberty and will not prosecute the cases unless they will settle all expenses. Even if they go free in this case, however, it is believed they will be held for more serious charges, as the police of this section have been on the lookout for a trio of professional swindlers, who have been victimizing many other hotel proprietors.

It is believed that the three are believed to be a gang of sharpers, who have victimized many exclusive hotels in the cities of this state, giving their names as Dr. P. M. Engle, Dr. C. H. Hayes, and M. M. Smith of Wilmington.

The police of Oswego charge them with passing bogus checks to the amount of \$200 on hotel proprietors and business men in this city.

It is believed that the three are in the neighborhood of Oswego waiting for the summer season to begin.

lition House and the Webber and even the
ertained lavishly the leading citizens of the
that place, giving wire supports, and yacht
club entertainment for Osgood's
hundred.

They gave a function in honor of Col.
John T. Mott, of the Republican State
Committee, and Mayor Hall. Dr. Engle,
who represented himself as a son of ex-
Senator Englis, proved himself
prince of entertainers. Dr. Hayce signed
as he spoke of the shocking death of his
dear friend, Adolpho Ryan, son of the
Secretary of State, who fell from a win-
dow in New York City. He said that
year of his death that they were making
a tour of the country that they were making

They were stylishly dressed and said that while in New York they were dined and toasted by some wealthy friends at the Union League Club. Among the checks which they tendered in payment for board and other entertainments and which are alleged to be worthless was one for \$100 drawn on the Garfield National Bank, of New York, bearing the signature of R. M. Englis, and one for \$500 drawn on the Riggs National Bank, of Washington, and signed by Col. Charles B. Smith, both of which checks are said to be payable to R. M. Englis.

The men stated that they were connected with the United States Navy Department. One hotel proprietor when a check on the Biggs Bank of Washington was offered to him wired that bank asking if Colonel Engleiss had an account there. He received in reply a message stating that Colonel Engleiss had no account. When Dr. Engleiss was confronted with this reply he gave the proprietor \$100 in payment of his bill, and urged him to say nothing.

about the incident, as it was all a mistake.

The three men left Oswego for Alexandria Bay on Saturday afternoon. The police at once telegraphed a description throughout the State. Their latest escape led to their capture before the authorities along their route had time to apprehend them.

Nothing is known by the police here of the men under arrest, as noted in the foregoing despatch. No request for their cap-

Enquiry at the Riggs house last night developed nothing relative to the arrests made by Colonel Staples. The cashier, Mr. Nichols, said he knew nothing about the matter. He was interested, however, and made a survey of his books, but could not discover that any of the accused men had ever been guests of the Riggs House. The same was true at the National Hotel, where the clerk stated

He had never seen the persons mentioned in the despatch.

At Headquarters doubts were expressed whether the prisoners live here at all. Reports of their operations in New York State and elsewhere have been received here, but they are unknown to the local police.

SIR THOMAS HOPEFUL.

Believes the Shamrock II May Regain the America's Cup.

GLASGOW, July 14.—In an interview today, Sir Thomas Lipton said that the trials had proved that the Shamrock II was the fastest racer ever built on this

side of the Atlantic. Protracted experiments were made in getting her into trim, and she is now almost perfect. He was confident of her chances. He talked with Sailmaker Ratsey that

Shamrock I was now quite a match for the Columbia. Thus, the challenger's beating the Shamrock I decisively affords hope of a successful issue to his attempt to beat the Columbia's Gun.

July 25 has been fixed as the date of the departure of the Shamrock II for New York.

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